

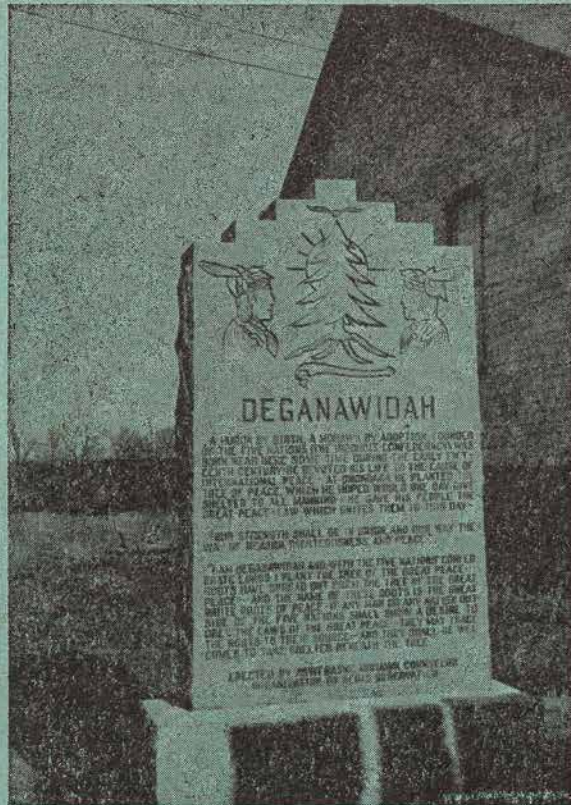
## Aren Akweks (Ray Fadden)

### *Collection of Mohawk Legends*

St. Regis Mohawk Reservation, Hogansburg, New York: Akwesasne Counselor Organization 1948 \$175

## Collection of Mohawk Legends

BY AREN AKWEKS



Memorial erected to Deganawidah near Ka-ka-ha-na-yenh on the Thayendanega Mohawk Reservation by the Akwesasne Mohawk Counselor Organization.

AKWESASNE COUNSELOR ORGANIZATION  
ST. REGIS MOHAWK RESERVATION  
HOGANSBURG, NEW YORK

First edition.  
Octavo. 8pp.  
Illustrations.  
Stapled  
photographically  
illustrated blue  
wrappers. A  
little soiling on  
the wrappers,  
else near fine.

According to Ken Lopez: "Aren Akweks was the pen name of Ray Fadden, aka Tehanetorens, a white man of Scottish descent who married an Iroquois woman and was adopted into the Wolf Clan. He founded the Akwesasne Mohawk Counselor Organization as a way to teach young Iroquois children about their culture and their past, and later he was co-founder of the Six Nations Indian Museum." The spots drawings in this pamphlet are very likely by his son, John Fadden, who, also according to Lopez, "...John Fadden, aka Kahiones... later became a much published and much admired illustrator, primarily of books by or about Native Americans." [BTC#425461]

# How Man Was Created

BY AREN AKWEKS

After Sat-kon-se-ri-io, the good Spirit, had made the animals, birds, and other creatures and had placed them to live and multiply upon the earth, he rested. As he gazed around at his various creatures it seemed to him that there was something lacking. For a long time the Good Spirit pondered over this thought. Finally he decided to make a creature that would resemble himself.

Going to the bank of a river he took a piece of clay and out of it he fashioned a little clay man. After he had modeled it, he built a fire and setting the little clay man in the fire waited for it to bake. The day was beautiful. The songs of the birds filled the air. The river sang a song and, as the Good Spirit listened to this song, he became very sleepy. He soon fell asleep beside the fire. When he finally awoke, he rushed to the fire and removed the clay man. He had slept too long. His little man was burnt black. According to the Mohawks this little man was the first Negro. His skin was black. He had been over baked.

The Good Spirit was not satisfied. Taking a fresh piece of clay, he fashioned another man and placing him in the fire waited for him to bake, determined this time to stay awake and watch his little man to see that he would not be over baked. But the river sang its usual sleepy song. The Good Spirit, in spite of all he could do, fell asleep. But this time he slept only a little while. Awakening at last, he ran to the fire and removed his little man. Behold, it was half baked. This, say the Mohawks, was the first white man. He was half baked!

The Good Spirit was still unsatisfied. Searching along the river bank he hunted until he found a bed of perfect red clay. This time he took great care and modeled a very fine clay man. Taking the clay man to the fire, he allowed it to bake. Determined to stay awake, the Good Spirit stood beside the fire. After awhile Sat-kon-se-ri-lo removed the clay man. Behold, it was just right - - a man colored as the red color of the sunset sky. It was the first Mohawk Indian,